

There was no objection.

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5923, introduced by the gentleman from New York (Mr. ACKERMAN), designates the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 29-50 Union Street in Flushing, New York, as the Dr. Leonard Price Stavisky Post Office.

Dr. Stavisky, a member of the New York State Senate, represented Flushing, Queens, from 1965 until his death in 1999. He served with distinction during those years, and I hope my colleagues will join us in supporting this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I also urge our colleagues to support this resolution. I want to commend the gentleman from New York (Mr. ACKERMAN), our colleague, for introducing this resolution and recognizing the service of Dr. Stavisky in this way.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to him the balance of my time.

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5923, a bill that would designate the United States Postal Service facility located at 29-50 Union Street in Flushing, New York, as the Dr. Leonard Price Stavisky Post Office. It is more than fitting that a Federal facility be named after Leonard in a community that he so ably represented for so many years; and I note for the record that the bill is cosponsored by every Member of the New York State delegation, both sides of the aisle.

Leonard was born in the Bronx and graduated from City College of New York in 1945. He continued his studies by earning a Master of Arts degree from Columbia University in 1946. He capped off his education with a doctorate in American History from Columbia in 1958.

Leonard had a long and illustrious first career in academia, spending more than 30 years working and teaching at Columbia University, the State University of New York, the City University of New York, Colgate University, Long Island University, and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. He taught history and political science and worked at the administration level as well.

Until 1990, Leonard was an adjunct professor of political science at Columbia's School of International and Public Affairs. His extensive background in education enabled him to be a strong and effective advocate and expert on education issues during his legislative career.

Leonard earned his political stripes while serving on the New York City Council from 1954 to 1960. He was elected to the New York State Assembly in 1966, served as chairman of the Edu-

cation Committee for more than 8 years. As chairman of the committee, he became an outspoken and passionate advocate of State support for public education.

In 1975, Leonard sponsored the legislation that prevented severe budget cuts in New York City's public schools in the wake of the city's severe financial crisis.

Leonard became my successor in the New York State Senate; and there he continued his fervent support of public education, including pushing for fiscal autonomy for the State University of New York.

At the national level, Leonard served as a commissioner on the Education Commission of the States and was chairman of the Education and Labor Committee of the National Conference of State Legislatures.

□ 1800

In these capacities he was a tireless advocate for States on educational issues involving the Federal Government and school districts across the Nation.

Mr. Speaker, most of all, Leonard passionately represented Flushing, New York, in the Borough of Queens during his time in the New York State assembly and senate until his untimely death in 1999. He was active in all phases of community affairs, especially in Flushing. He served on the boards of directors of the Bay Community Volunteer Ambulance Corp., the Latimer Gardens Community Center, the Bland Houses Community Center, the Dwarf-Giraffe Boys League, the Flushing Boys Club, and the North Flushing Senior Center.

In addition, he worked closely with the Mitchell-Linden Civic Association on numerous local issues. The members of this association have sought to honor Senator Stavisky by renaming the post office in their community after him. Dr. Stavisky could have comfortably stayed on in the academic field his entire career. Rather, he chose to selflessly participate in the political process in order to effectuate the policies he thought necessary to further public education.

I would like to note, Mr. Speaker, that Leonard's wife, Toby, is carrying on Leonard's work, elected in her own right as the senator from New York's 16th State senate district, succeeding Leonard after his passing. Toby is the first woman elected to the State senate from Queens County. Leonard and Toby's son, Evan, is a prominent political consultant in New York.

Mr. Speaker, Leonard Price Stavisky's life of hard work, perseverance, and selflessness brought integrity and dignity to public office. It is appropriate to pay tribute to his memory by renaming this post office in Flushing, Queens in his honor. I sincerely hope the whole House will join us in commemorating his decades of service to the people of Queens and to the city and State of New York, and I urge all to support H.R. 5923.

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor and respect that I rise today to pay tribute to my late colleague and dear friend, Leonard Stavisky, and to pledge my support for the renaming of a post office in Queens on his behalf. I wish to thank the dean of the Queens County Delegation and Senator Leonard Stavisky's predecessor in Albany, Congressman GARY L. ACKERMAN for bringing this fitting tribute to our attention today.

Leonard Stavisky was a giant in Queens County politics. I had the pleasure of getting to know Leonard during our time shared in Albany. I served in the State Assembly and Leonard was a senior Member of the State Senate. Leonard was a lifelong New Yorker who was deeply committed to leaving his community better than he had found it. Passionately devoted to all issues impacting his native Queens, Leonard worked particularly hard to ensure that all individuals had access to a quality education. He served admirably as Chairman of the State Assembly Education Committee and as Ranking Member of the Senate Higher Education Committee. Leonard also strived to personally reach the lives of New York City students in his role as administrator at Queensborough Community College and at his alma mater, City College. It is perhaps this quality, his deep and honest care for the welfare of all individuals, which we will remember most about Leonard and mourn deepest.

After Leonard's passing, his widow, Toby Ann Stavisky, was elected to the State Senate to replace him. Senator Toby Stavisky was the first woman elected to the State Senate from Queens County and continues to serve as a strong advocate for working families in the footsteps of her late husband. I am proud that she continues his fight in Albany. I also wish to recognize Leonard and Toby's son, Evan, who worked on his father's campaign and helped elect his mother to the State Senate. He is a successful communications consultant today.

I wholeheartedly support the renaming of the post office in Flushing as the Dr. Leonard Price Stavisky Post Office not only as a tribute to Leonard's career but as a memory of our friendship and his lasting impact on Queens. I congratulate his family on this memorial.

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5923.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### URGING THE PRESIDENT TO APPOINT A PRESIDENTIAL SPECIAL ENVOY FOR SUDAN

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 992) urging the President to appoint a

Presidential Special Envoy for Sudan, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 992

Whereas in July 2004, the United States House of Representatives and Senate declared that the atrocities in the Darfur region of Sudan constitute genocide, and the Bush administration reached the same conclusion in September 2004, when then Secretary of State Colin Powell stated that “the evidence leads us to the conclusion that genocide has occurred and may still be occurring in Darfur”;

Whereas an estimated 300,000 to 400,000 people have been killed by the Government of Sudan and its Janjaweed allies since the crisis began in 2003, more than 2,000,000 people have been displaced from their homes, and more than 250,000 people from Darfur remain in refugee camps in Chad;

Whereas some rebel factions, which have targeted civilians in the Darfur region, have intensified their attacks even after the signing of the Darfur Peace Agreement in May 2006;

Whereas the United Nations Under-Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs, Jan Egeland, in late August 2006 stated that “[i]nsecurity is at its highest level since 2004, access at its lowest levels since that date, and we may well be on the brink of a return to all-out war”;

Whereas despite the signing of the Darfur Peace Agreement in May 2006, violence against civilians, peacekeepers, and humanitarian workers continues unabated; and an estimated 12 humanitarian workers have been killed in Darfur, including a nurse in September 2006;

Whereas in August 2006, the Government of Sudan began to deploy thousands of government troops for a major offensive in Darfur, once again threatening a major humanitarian catastrophe and risking the safety and security of millions of civilians;

Whereas according to the Government of Sudan's plan, in a document submitted to the United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan, the Government of Sudan plans to deploy approximately 26,500 additional troops and 7,050 additional police to Darfur;

Whereas the objectives of this deployment are “to deal with the threats posed by the activities of groups that have rejected the Darfur Peace Agreement and to gain control over the security situation and achieve stability in Darfur”;

Whereas the United Nations Security Council passed a resolution expanding the mandate of the United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) for the additional deployment of 17,300 peacekeeping troops and 3,300 civilian police personnel as well as 16 formed police units to Darfur;

Whereas President Omar Bashir of Sudan has rejected the deployment of a United Nations peacekeeping force to Darfur, even as First Vice President Salva Kiir has publicly stated his support for the deployment of a United Nations peacekeeping mission to Darfur;

Whereas implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) between the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) is slow, raising serious concern about the commitment of the Government of Sudan to fulfill its responsibilities;

Whereas in July 2005, although the Abyei Boundary Commission, established to define and demarcate the area of the nine Ngok Dinka chiefdoms, finished its work and submitted its report to President Bashir, the President has yet to implement the conclusions of the Commission, as called for in the Comprehensive Peace Agreement;

Whereas the reconstruction and development of Southern Sudan and other marginalized areas remains a major challenge, while the return of refugees and displaced people to their homes in Darfur will require major financial commitments and the establishment of a secure and safe environment throughout Darfur;

Whereas in order to tackle these many and difficult challenges, the appointment of a Presidential Special Envoy for Sudan with a robust mandate and access to, and support of, senior Administration officials, including the President, is crucial;

Whereas Members of Congress, leading foreign policy experts, and many nongovernmental organizations have called repeatedly for the appointment of a Presidential Envoy for Sudan to effectively represent the United States Government in heading off a further escalation of genocide in Darfur;

Whereas United States Government officials have diligently pursued peace agreements to end the North-South conflict and the Darfur conflict and the United States Government has provided more than \$2 billion in assistance to help the suffering people of Sudan; and

Whereas during a speech before the United Nations General Assembly on September 19, 2006, President George W. Bush announced the appointment of Andrew Natsios to serve as Presidential Special Envoy for Sudan: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) commends the many years of tireless efforts of United States officials who have helped secure the Comprehensive Peace Agreement and the Darfur Peace Agreement;

(2) strongly supports the appointment of an adequately staffed Presidential Special Envoy for Sudan with a robust mandate to develop and coordinate United States policy toward Sudan with regular access to senior Administration officials; and

(3) strongly urges the mandate of the Presidential Special Envoy for Sudan to include—

(A) deterring a further escalation of violence and humanitarian disaster in the Darfur region of Sudan while ensuring civilians are adequately protected and the Darfur Peace Agreement is fully implemented;

(B) facilitating the development of an international peacekeeping mission to Darfur with a mandate to protect civilians and humanitarian workers;

(C) ensuring implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, which ended the 21-year civil war in Southern Sudan, Nuba, Southern Blue Nile, and Abyei and helping secure a just peace in Eastern Sudan;

(D) coordination of reconstruction and development work in Southern Sudan and other marginalized areas;

(E) coordination and monitoring of the return of refugees and displaced people to their homes in Darfur and southern Sudan;

(F) securing and consolidating peace in Northern Uganda by working closely with the Government of South Sudan and the Government of Uganda;

(G) coordination of efforts to ensure implementation of the transformation of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) into a professional armed force;

(H) work toward achieving a peaceful, stable, and democratic Sudan by ensuring that free and fair elections are held, as called for in the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, by coordinating and implementing programs necessary to achieve these objectives; and

(I) coordination of efforts to work toward achieving accountability for the crimes committed in Darfur by working closely with relevant individuals and entities engaged in this area.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the challenges we face today in Sudan are perhaps among the most difficult of our time. The interminable war between Khartoum and the rebels in the south claimed the lives of over 2 million people and was punctuated by brutalities that strain our credulity. The United States poured hundreds of millions of dollars into humanitarian relief for Sudan, but never bothered to effectively engage in a high-level effort to resolve the conflict until 2001 when President Bush appointed Senator John Danforth to serve as a Special Envoy to Sudan.

With Senator Danforth's leadership, the Comprehensive Peace Agreement for Sudan was signed in January of 2005, presenting a historic opportunity for peace, economic development, and democratic aspirations in southern Sudan. Unfortunately, implementation of the peace agreement has been slow and many difficult challenges lie ahead.

While the international community focused on resolving the war in the south, a genocidal campaign was unleashed by the government of Sudan in the Darfur region of western Sudan. As many as 400,000 people have died since 2004, and more than 2 million others have been forced from their homes. Once again, the U.S. Government provided millions of dollars to meet the immediate humanitarian needs of those most affected by the conflict, including more than \$150 million to support the deployment and operations of the African Union peacekeepers in Darfur. This time, however, the U.S. immediately engaged at the highest levels to seek a resolution to the conflict.

Two years of intense negotiations, with significant engagement by President Bush himself, finally yielded a peace agreement between the Government of Sudan and the largest rebel faction in Darfur, the SLA, in May of this year. Unfortunately, the agreement has not held and the Sudanese Government has launched military operations against its own civilian population in Darfur.

Mr. Speaker, the United States has significant human rights and security

interests at stake in Sudan. Recall that in 1996 the Sudanese Government made Osama bin Laden available to American law enforcement officials, a point that Salah Gosh reiterated to me with a great deal of sarcasm when I met with him 14 months ago in Khartoum. That offer, as we know, was refused.

We cannot afford to repeat those mistakes of the past. The United States needs a rational, well coordinated policy towards Sudan that puts an end to the violence and terrorism and human rights abuses at the core of our relationship. It is in this context that I welcome, and we welcome as a body, the President's appointment of Andrew Natsios to serve as the Presidential Envoy for Sudan.

The resolution before us today, authored by our good friend and colleague, Chairman FRANK WOLF, H. Res. 992, strongly supports the appointment of the Special Envoy for Sudan and suggests a roadmap for the formation of a comprehensive responsible policy towards Sudan.

It states that the Special Envoy's mandate should include all efforts to consolidate peace throughout Sudan, including by ensuring full implementation of the Darfur Peace Agreement and the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. The mandate should also include helping to secure a just and equitable peace in eastern Sudan, supporting reconstruction efforts and the return of displaced persons to the Darfur and southern Sudan and addressing the inextricably linked conflict in northern Uganda.

In essence what will be the Special Envoy's responsibility to ensure that we do not repeat the mistakes of the past by focusing solely on the crisis in Darfur at the expense of solidifying the north-south peace accord and resolving the conflict in the east; by allowing the potential for peace in southern Sudan to blind us to the grave human rights tragedies continuing to unfold in Darfur; and by allowing the government of Sudan's reported cooperation in the war on terror to outweigh human rights concerns in the region. They must be paramount. And also to allow those same human rights concerns to compromise our ability to protect our own citizens.

Again, this is a good resolution. I would note parenthetically that originally it called for the creation, this resolution by Mr. WOLF, of a Special Envoy. Thankfully, events have overcome the resolution and now we are congratulating the administration for doing just that, creating a Special Envoy for Sudan.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support of this resolution. I would first like to commend my good friend from Virginia, Congressman FRANK WOLF, who serves with me as co-chair of the Congressional Human

Rights Caucus, for introducing this most important measure. I also want to congratulate former USAID Administrator Andrew Natsios on his recent appointment as Presidential Special Envoy responsible for addressing the crisis in Darfur and for coordinating our policies towards Sudan.

Mr. Natsios brings a remarkable lifetime of experience to this very challenging task. Throughout his career, he has faced many humanitarian and disaster situations, and he has performed brilliantly. The crisis in Darfur will require aggressive diplomacy for which Mr. Natsios is well suited.

Mr. Speaker, 2 years ago this Congress found the atrocities taking place in Darfur were genocide. We thought that this declaration would trigger an outpouring of diplomatic efforts worldwide to rescue the victims of Khartoum's methodical madness. Rather than welcoming our clear-cut declaration, many around the world continued to wring their hands. Some even indulged in a specious debate as to whether the tragedy in Darfur was even a genocide. For too many the term "genocide" created the specter of accountability, which few individual leaders and fewer governments and institutions were willing to contemplate.

This same paralysis struck the international community, including our own government, in 1994, when the Rwandan genocide unfolded before us with lightning speed, 1 million people massacred in 100 days. In the aftermath of the genocide in Rwanda, leaders uttered the familiar phrase "never again," never again would the world stand by and allow genocide to take place while we stood by and did nothing about it.

But for 3 years, Mr. Speaker, genocide has been unfolding in Darfur, and the international community has been excruciatingly slow to act.

Mr. Speaker, this Congress and the American people have not given up. Today we are voting on three separate measures that address the crisis in Darfur, including the one before us at the moment. The genocide must stop. Lives must be saved. The people of Darfur must be made whole again and a permanent and just peace must come to Darfur.

Mr. Speaker, I support this resolution because sustained and intensive diplomatic efforts at the highest levels are needed. The Special Envoy must not only engage the parties to the conflict in Darfur. He also will need to galvanize the international community to bring lasting peace to Darfur.

I strongly support this resolution and urge all of my colleagues to do so as well.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Virginia, Chairman FRANK WOLF, author of the resolution.

(Mr. WOLF asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I stand in strong support of H. Res. 992, supporting the appointment of a Presidential Special Envoy; also, H. Res. 723, calling for the President to take immediate steps to improve the security situation in Darfur; and H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act.

I want to commend and personally thank Chairman HYDE, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. PAYNE, and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey and their staffs for all the efforts that have gone into this.

Last week at the United Nations, the President renewed our country's commitment to finding peace in Sudan by appointing Andrew Natsios as a Presidential Special Envoy for Sudan. Andrew has a big task ahead of him, but I am confident he goes into this position with the respect of the administration and determination to see peace in Sudan and somebody who understands the issue having been there on numerous occasions. We all support him in this endeavor.

The people of Sudan, north, south, Darfur, all of Sudan, have suffered for too long. What is needed now is immediate action. The women and children are counting on us to end their nightmare. No human should ever have to live through and endure what these people are living through. I have seen through my own eyes during my latest trip to Sudan just 2 years ago the suffering people of Darfur. I visited five refugee camps, all sprawling tent cities jam-packed with thousands of displaced families. Also having visited Sudan in other cases, I have seen the suffering that went on in the north-south issue, people in the south and in the north.

So as Mr. SMITH said, this does not only deal with Darfur but also is to make sure that the north-south peace agreement continues to stay alive.

I watched the barbarous Janjaweed militiamen, who are carrying out these attacks, sitting astride camels and horses just a short distance from where young and old sought what they had hoped would be a safe harbor.

In the face of genocide, the international community has been paralyzed to act. The United States Government has led this effort in trying to bring peace in Sudan. Heroes like Roger Winter and others have dedicated their careers to the people of Sudan and should be commended.

But, unfortunately, all of the diplomatic efforts that have been made over the last 3 years have failed to bring peace in Darfur. As we stand here, bombers are taking off, Antonov bombers, strafing villages. Soviet Hind helicopters fly in and attack the villages. Women and children are fleeing for their lives. The Janjaweed militia has continued to rape and kill, wiping out generations of people in Darfur. It is unacceptable, and the world must act.

All three of these measures make it a priority to end the genocide and work to bring a lasting peace for the people of Sudan.

I want to again commend the House for the strong stand. I want to commend Mr. HYDE, who has been a champion on these issues for so many, many times, in a bipartisan effort. I also want to thank Mr. LANTOS. Every time one of these issues comes down on the floor, it is LANTOS who is sitting over there.

□ 1815

And, lastly, I want to thank my good friend, Mr. SMITH, who, quite frankly, on these issues of human rights and religious freedom over the 26 years that I have served with him, he has done more I think than perhaps any other person that has ever served in this institution from the very, very beginning. But it is always HYDE, LANTOS, SMITH. It is almost like a baseball game and the three.

And, also, I also want to thank DON PAYNE. DON PAYNE has been faithful, loyal, always there, always speaking out, always there. Has been there, I do not how many times, but also I want to thank Mr. PAYNE, and there are so many other Members.

But these four, HYDE, LANTOS, PAYNE and SMITH, have been the ones that have really made a tremendous difference. And others again, I stipulate, care about this thing deeply. But it just seems that every time there is a human rights issue on the floor, they are the people that are down there.

So I urge that we pass this thing with a majority vote and send a message to the government of Khartoum.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my friend from Virginia for his most generous comments, and I yield 3 minutes to the ranking member of the Africa Subcommittee, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE), my good friend and distinguished colleague, who is our leader on issues relating to Africa.

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act, a bill which I have worked on for more than a year with many others. I am glad to see it come to the floor again for final passage.

Let me just say that the bills that are being discussed today, H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act of 2006; H.R. 723, calling for the President to take immediate steps to help improve the security in Darfur; and H. Res. 992, urging the President to appoint special envoys for Sudan; really speaks out that we are sick and tired of being sick and tired.

We continue to say to Khartoum that they must stop the genocide. It will not be tolerated. President Bashir, the National Congress party officials, Janjaweed commanders and murderers,

and others responsible for genocide must be held accountable and will be brought to justice. This bill is just the first step.

I want to thank Chairman HYDE for working with our Democratic members of the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Human Rights and International Operations.

I also would like to repeat what Congressman WOLF said, that Congressman LANTOS has been a steadfast leader on issues of genocide. And as he being a genocide survivor, a Holocaust survivor, we know of his strong passion for this issue, and so we really appreciate his leadership.

There are key provisions in this legislation, Section 7 and Section 8. We want to first say that a peaceful resolution must happen in Darfur, and the Comprehensive Peace Agreement we think is a step towards that to happen.

Section 8 of the legislation exempts the south and the three marginalized areas, deals with a number of issues that have been summarized in the bill.

But let me just conclude by saying that there was an additional provision in the original bill, though, that I just would like to mention briefly, of Congresswoman BARBARA LEE, which dealt with States having the ability to withhold pension funds from businesses that are operating in Sudan.

Unfortunately, this was removed by the Senate. We hope to see this legislation, this language put back in, because we believe that States should have the right to divest from companies doing business, international companies doing business in Darfur; and we will continue to work towards that end.

And so, Mr. Speaker, I thank the leadership for moving this bill forward.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of our time.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE), always a strong voice on human rights.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, let me thank the gentleman from California, our ranking member, for yielding and for your leadership. I also want to thank Chairman SMITH. I want to thank Mr. PAYNE for your leadership and for helping to get this bill this far.

This is a good step in a direction that I hope will ultimately stop the slaughter, stop the genocide, protect the people of Darfur and allow the people of Darfur to go home.

Over 2 million people have been displaced. We hear upwards of 450,000 people have been killed. This is a horrific genocide. We need the world community to say no, and we need to make sure that the young people who have been working and organizing throughout the country and raising their voices saying "not on our watch" that this is not on our watch and that we on our watch allow for the genocide to end.

You do remember very clearly that over a million people were killed in

Rwanda. And what we did, unfortunately, was sit back and say later that we were sorry. This should not ever happen again. Not on our watch will it happen again.

So I think even with the difficulties we have had with the language remaining with regard to not preempting States in their divestment movements, this is, again, a good first start.

I just want Members in this body to know, especially, that we are coming back on divestment, because it makes no sense to allow companies with holdings in the Sudan to continue to do this type of business. Pension funds should not have blood in their banks, and that is exactly what has happened.

The people in the United States of America do not want genocide to take place with their money. That is what is taking place. And so we need to allow the wishes and the desires of people throughout the country, including in New Jersey, and today California signed its divestment legislation, Illinois, there are many States that are moving forward.

So we are going to come back with our divestment legislation so that this Federal law will not preempt it.

So thank you again, Mr. LANTOS and Mr. SMITH.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Chairman CHRIS SMITH and Ranking Member DON PAYNE for their hard work on H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act but have concerns on versions emerging from the other body.

We all agree that the systematic displacement, torture and slaughter of millions in Darfur must be stopped.

However, the legislation before us today is not the same bipartisan bill that received almost unanimous support in the House of Representatives in April of this year—and then awaited consideration in the other body for nearly 6 months.

Mr. Speaker, the original H.R. 3127 legislation that the House approved contained all the steps necessary to bring about peace and justice for the victims in Darfur and criminal penalties and financial sanctions against those who perpetrated the genocide.

H.R. 3127 still contains many strong provisions including: immediately mobilizing support to expand the African Union mission, blocking assets and restricting travel of any individual the President determines is responsible for acts of genocide, war crimes, or crimes against humanity in the Darfur region; and offering U.S. support for the International Criminal Court's efforts to prosecute those responsible for acts of genocide in Darfur.

However, Mr. Speaker, this bill falls short on the issue of divestment.

The bill that came out of the House International Relations Committee and passed by the House included an amendment I authored on divestment.

In particular, the language that was included in the House-passed bill provides pre-emptive protections for states and universities who are mounting divestment campaigns throughout our Nation.

States and localities, and colleges and universities across the Nation have passed legislation mandating divestment of State funds

from companies that conduct business in Sudan.

Mr. Speaker, divestment works.

The lessons from South Africa taught us that divestment is an effective tool—and clearly it's time we hit Khartoum where they'll feel it most, in their pocket books.

We should not provide cover to businesses whose profits maintain Khartoum's systematic torture, rape, murder and displacement of millions.

And moreover, I am profoundly disappointed at my colleagues in the other body.

By removing this key provision, they are sending a message to states and universities nation-wide that stopping divestment is ultimately more important than stopping the genocide.

Without the Lee Section 11 Divestment language a message is also going out to Khartoum and the companies that have been sheltered by the removal of this language—the message is “With a wink and an eye your profits are more important than the Darfur people.

I will support this bill. But, Mr. Speaker, I will also continue to fight to ensure preemption protections for states and communities and other bodies pursuing divestment strategies.

That is why I introduced H.R. 6140, a bill that bars Federal contracts with firms doing business with Sudan but also protects states' ability to divest their pension funds from such companies.

Mr. Speaker we have a moral responsibility to use every tool at our disposal to stop the genocide. And divestment is a powerful tool and should have been part of the legislation we are considering today.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman from California. There is certainly no doubt in your leadership on these issues.

The chairman, Chairman SMITH, and the members of the International Relations Committee, Members of this Congress, this is time for robust action. Frankly, it is time for rolling up the sleeves and the heavy lifting.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the distinguished gentleman from New Jersey for his persistence on passing the accountability bill and the declaration of genocide. It has been a long journey. We passed it. We are back again. But the people of Darfur cannot take any more bumps in the road, the constant pain of the violence and abuse against women and children and men, the constant moving, the increasing number of refugees, the violence against refugees, the Janjaweed and others.

The government is continuing to play the blame game. It is vital that the envoy have a robust mandate and be able to energize the negotiations that are going on or that are not going on. The President of Sudan has to be addressed and has to be admonished, and then we need NATO to be able to

ensure that there is security and that they are much involved in pushing the Sudan.

We need Egypt, we need Jordan, we need Algeria, we need Libya to encourage the president of Sudan to stand down. It is extremely important that we are reminded of the necessary humanitarian aid that is vital in the cause of saving lives.

We need to save lives. Chad cannot take any more of a burden than what it already has. And having been to the camps in Chad, spoken to women who would not look you in the face because they had been raped over and over again, Mr. Speaker, this is a monumental crisis. We must not leave this place, the Senate must not leave the place, the President must not let this Congress go out without signing legislation so that the protection of those who are now under attack can be ensured.

I hope that the presidential envoy will have the robust mandate to push the United Nations and the African Union and the United Nations peacekeepers to ensure peace in the region. I ask for support of these initiatives.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 992, which urges the President to appoint a Presidential Special Envoy for Sudan.

The appointment of a Presidential Special Envoy for Sudan with a robust mandate and access to, and support of, senior administration officials, including the President, is crucial. Just a few months ago, we passed the Emergency Supplemental Act, which included \$250,000 to appoint this special envoy. It is imperative that the President move rapidly to appoint this envoy, that envoy has now been appointed and his mandate must be vigorous and unyielding for peace and security in Darfur.

The genocidal regime in Sudan has left 2.5 million people displaced and at least 400,000 people dead in Darfur. Due to increasing violence, 15,000 innocent civilians continue to die each month. Genocide cannot continue on our watch; the United States must move towards effective action against this most terrible crime. The United Nations Secretary General has described the situation in Darfur as “little short of hell on earth.” Expert John Prendergast calls it “Rwanda in slow motion.” The United States Congress and administration are on record as declaring that the atrocities being committed in Darfur, Sudan are genocide.

Until the security situation vastly improves, the people of Sudan will experience increasingly long-term adversity. Civilians can't plan on stability in the future. They can't grow crops, or raise livestock, if there is a likelihood—not a chance, a likelihood—that roving government-sponsored militias will beat, rape, or kill them if they wander outside the protection of makeshift camps. And these government-sponsored criminals burn fields the people have managed to grow, and steal or slaughter the livestock the people have managed to keep.

Over 400,000 people have died in the Darfur conflict since 2003, with 3.5 million people driven into hunger, and another 2.5 million displaced due to violence. Imagine if

the entire city of Las Vegas had perished at the hands of government-sponsored bandits, the population of Los Angeles was starving, and both the cities of Houston and Atlanta had all relocated due to conflict. The upheaval of the South after Hurricane Katrina is our closest reference to understanding the devastation Sudan is experiencing, and yet the scale in Sudan is overwhelming. We should all be quaking with anger.

Human rights are not for any government to give and take—they are inherent, self-evident, and vital, as our founding fathers understood so well. We should not be complacent when such rights are violated or refused—we must use what power we have to ensure that people are free to live and thrive safely.

We must work to deter any escalation of violence, and provide unwavering assistance to diffuse the current strife. I commend the tireless efforts of United States officials who have helped secure the Comprehensive Peace Agreement and the Darfur Peace Agreement. And yet there is much to be done, the welfare of a nation lies within our hands.

Our role is clear, and we must do what we can to alleviate the desperation of the civilians caught in the mayhem in Sudan. I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3127, H. Res. 723 and H. Res. 992 and to call your attention to the rapidly deteriorating situation in Darfur. I join the sponsors of these bills in an effort to express our support of urgent action by the U.S. Government to intervene to stop the genocide which is now occurring. Since the conflict began in 2003 hundreds of thousands of people have died. Nearly 2,000,000 people have been internally displaced, more than 3,000,000 people are dependant on international assistance to survive, and nearly 220,000 refugees are seeking protection in neighboring Chad. And although the UN has deployed nearly 13,000 humanitarian aid workers, the support offered to the region is not enough. In spite of the presence of African Union Mission in Sudan (AIMS) forces, the Sudanese government as well as militia men persists in flagrantly ignoring terms outlined in peace agreements resulting in continued genocidal violence and crimes against humanity. As reported by the International Commission of Inquiry on Darfur “the extensive destruction and displacement have resulted in a loss of livelihood and the means of survival for countless women, men and children.” Each day hundreds of innocent civilians are killed, raped, and forced to flee their homes. The world is failing Darfur. The United States is failing Darfur.

Despite continued talk of the United States' commitment to liberate people from tyrannical dictators, spread democracy around the world, and fighting terrorism; we continue to tacitly permit the isolation, displacement, and murder of thousands of people throughout the region. We cannot continue to bear silent witness to the massacres. We must act now.

How long will we allow a government which permits attacks and killings of so many of its citizens to refuse aid? How long will we watch as humanitarian aid workers are killed in the line of duty? How long will we continue to talk about genocide without responding? During a subcommittee on Africa, Global Human Rights and International Operations House International Relations Committee testimony, Roger P. Winter, former special representative

on Sudan of the Deputy Secretary of State asserted "Sudan's National Congress Party is controlled by an intellectually-capable, radically committed, conspiratorial and compassionless nucleus of individuals, long referred to as the National Islamic Front (NIF)." Substantiating the fact that the Sudanese government is responsible for perpetuating the atrocities occurring throughout the Sudan, especially in Darfur, Mr. Winter's comments also underscore the necessity for both the United Nations and the United States to step up to the plate.

Let us be clear. The situation is getting worse and it will continue to worsen should we stand idle. In violation of previous agreements, aerial bombings of villages using helicopter gunships have begun. Twelve humanitarian aid workers have been killed in the last two months and 25 humanitarian aid vehicles have been hijacked. The Sudanese government is still opposing a UN force, and has been threatening to throw out the AU if they transition into a UN force, and members of the Sudanese armed forces are disguising themselves and their vehicles to look like those of the AU. Something must be done to stop these atrocities.

There are several steps that can be taken to begin to address some of the egregious wrongs occurring throughout Sudan, particularly in Darfur. We must work both collectively with other governments as well as independently to enforce the provisions outlined in H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act including: reinforcing the deployment and operations of an expanded AU peace keeping force; restricting travel of individuals and associates directly responsible for acts of genocide, war crimes, or crimes against humanity in Sudan; and withholding, from the Sudanese government, profits from and/or related to oil and oil related ventures. Immediate deployment of UN peacekeeping forces in accordance with UN SC Res 1706, and implementation of all previously passed UN SC resolutions such as a No Fly Zone and disarming the Janjaweed militia is needed.

In accordance with H. Res. 723 we must take steps toward improving the security situation in Darfur particularly with regard to protecting civilian life. It is of critical importance that we immediately implement an interim civilian protection force that is both well trained and adequately equipped to protect civilians remaining in Darfur as well as those seeking refuge in Chad. In light of a report by Human Rights Watch we must ensure that cross-border raids initiated by Sudanese government forces and Janjaweed militias are countered by stalwart peacekeeping forces backed by stronger mandates. Similarly, appropriations must be made to support the implementation of these forces as well as to fund the missions of both AMIS and NATO in Darfur.

We must also push for allies and other nations including China, India, Malaysia and Russia to extend their support for the Sudanese government. Echoing the sentiments of H. Res. 992 we must employ a special envoy to facilitate the development of an international peacekeeping force and ensuring the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement among other essential tasks.

Moreover, we must encourage local authorities to exercise their legal right and moral obligation to exercise discretion in how they invest their money. Divesting is one of the many

ways that we can send the clear message that we will no longer stand by while hundreds of thousands of innocent people suffer. Lastly, we must ensure that the recently established presidential envoy has a solid, strong mandate, adequate support, and clear channels of communication with the President.

We cannot ignore the great responsibility resting upon our shoulders as a world leader. The people of Darfur can no longer afford to wait. We must hold true to our promises and to our convictions. We must stand up for humanity where human rights are being trampled, thousands are facing death.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, we have no additional requests for time, and we yield back the balance of our time.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of our time as well.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FEENEY). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 992, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

#### CORRECTING ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 3127, DARFUR PEACE AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2006

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I offer a concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 480) to correct the enrollment of the bill H.R. 3127, and ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

#### H. CON. RES. 480

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 3127, an Act to impose sanctions against individuals responsible for genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity, to support measures for the protection of civilians and humanitarian operations, and to support peace efforts in the Darfur region of Sudan, and for other purposes, the Clerk of the House of Representatives is hereby authorized and directed to make the following corrections in section 8(c)(1) of the bill:*

(1) Strike "to support" and insert "and to support".

(2) Strike "and to implement" and insert "or to implement".

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 5059, proceeding de novo;

H.R. 5062, proceeding de novo;

H.R. 6102, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining votes in this series will be 5-minute votes.

Postponed votes on H.R. 5092, H.R. 4772, and H. Res. 992 will be taken tomorrow.

#### NEW HAMPSHIRE WILDERNESS ACT OF 2006

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 5059.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5059.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 223, nays 167, not voting 42, as follows:

[Roll No. 471]

#### YEAS—223

Aderholt	Cantor	Foxx
Akin	Capito	Franks (AZ)
Alexander	Carnahan	Frelinghuysen
Bachus	Carter	Galleghy
Baker	Chabot	Garrett (NJ)
Barrett (SC)	Chocola	Gerlach
Barrow	Coble	Gilchrest
Bartlett (MD)	Cole (OK)	Gingrey
Barton (TX)	Conaway	Gohmert
Bass	Costa	Gonzalez
Biggart	Crenshaw	Goode
Bilbray	Culberson	Goodlatte
Bilirakis	Cummings	Granger
Bishop (UT)	Davis (KY)	Graves
Blackburn	Davis, Jo Ann	Grijalva
Blunt	Davis, Tom	Gutknecht
Boehlert	Deal (GA)	Hall
Boehner	Dent	Harman
Bonilla	Diaz-Balart, L.	Hart
Bonner	Diaz-Balart, M.	Hastings (WA)
Bono	Doolittle	Hayes
Boozman	Drake	Hayworth
Boren	Dreier	Hefley
Boswell	Duncan	Hensarling
Bradley (NH)	Ehlers	Herger
Brady (TX)	Emerson	Hobson
Brown (SC)	English (PA)	Hoekstra
Brown-Waite,	Everett	Hostettler
Ginny	Feeney	Hulshof
Burgess	Ferguson	Hunter
Buyer	Fitzpatrick (PA)	Hyde
Calvert	Foley	Inglis (SC)
Camp (MI)	Forbes	Issa
Campbell (CA)	Fortenberry	Jindal
Cannon	Fossella	Johnson (CT)